

MEDIA RELEASE

Aurizon - Putting Corporate Greed Before Local Communities

2 JUNE 2017

The Services Union is outraged by Aurizon's shock announcement that they plan to axe more than 300 jobs in the Rockhampton region and also jobs at the Mackay and Townsville depots.

The Services Union represents workers associated with these depots and workshops in a number of critical roles.

Secretary of The Services Union, Neil Henderson said this is a blatant attack on regional Queensland, by a company that is putting corporate greed before local workers, their families, local businesses and the local economies.

"This just goes to show you that privatisation of government assets is never a good idea," Mr Henderson said.

"It's evidence that Aurizon has absolutely no connection and absolutely no loyalty to the local communities who have supported them to build up their business."

"Axiing so many jobs and reducing the number of full time staff will also only mean a huge reduction in services to the whole of the State who rely on Aurizon transporting their freight."

The Services Union was only notified of Aurizon's intentions late yesterday afternoon.

"Our Union will now consult with our members, other unions, MPs, and community representatives to ensure that Aurizon do not destroy regional Queensland, which has been doing it very tough."

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"The potential loss of so many regional jobs will have a significant flow on effect to local economies, and unions will not stand idly by to watch this happen."

"Our members are proud of their local community and will no doubt, wanting to fight for their jobs," Mr Henderson said.

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